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Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 233899 TOSEC 270457

53
ORIGIN SS-25

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S/S: MR. BRIDGES
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USDEL SECRETARY AIRCRAFT IMMEDIATE
INFO USDEL SECRETARY PRIORITY

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EXDIS, FOR EAGLEBURGER FROM AHERNE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP (KISSINGER, HENRY A.)

SUBJECT: AVIATION WEEK
REF: SECTO 27233
1. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF ARTICLE WHICH APPEARED IN THE WASHINGTON ROUND-UP SECTION OF AVIATION WEEK SEPTEMBER 20. BEGIN TEXT:

WHITE HOUSE DENIAL

JOHN G. CARLSON, A WHITE HOUSE DEPUTY PRESS SECRETARY, LAST WEEK TERMED AN AVIATION WEEK AND SPACE TECHNOLOGY REPORT THAT SECRETARY OF STATE HENRY A. KISSINGER DIRECTED THE CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY TO SLANT U.S. ESTIMATES OF THE SOVIET TUPOLEV BACKFIRE BOMBERS RANGE AN "OUTRAGEOUS LIE." THE DEPUTY PRESS SECRETARY'S STATEMENT WAS MADE IN RESPONSE TO A QUERY BY THE UNITED PRESS INTERNATIONAL NEWS SERVICE FOLLOWING THE PUBLICATION OF THE ITEM IN AVIATION WEEK'S
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WASHINGTON ROUNDUP COLUMN OF SEPTEMBER 13 (P. 13). THE

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REPORT SAID KISSINGER ORDERED THAT THE RANGE ESTIMATES FOR THE BACKFIRE BE REDUCED TO COINCIDE WITH THE PRESENT U.S. POSITION IN THE STRATEGIC ARMS LIMITATION TALKS NOW UNDER WAY WITH THE SOVIET UNION, ACCORDING TO A WHITE HOUSE STAFF MEMBER.

THE DEPUTY PRESS SECRETARY SAID, "THIS IS A SLANDEROUS ATTACK ON THE INTEGRITY OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE AND THE CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY. TO ALLEGE THAT THE STUDY WAS DISTORTED TO FIT POLICY PREFERENCES IS AN OUTRAGEOUS LIE. THE STORY IS TOTALLY WITHOUT FOUNDATION, AND AVIATION WEEK HAS AN OBLIGATION TO SET THE RECORD STRAIGHT."

THE MAGAZINE ASKED THE WHITE HOUSE PRESS OFFICE TO PROVIDE ITS VERSION OF WHAT WOULD "SET THE RECORD STRAIGHT." A PRESS SPOKESMAN DECLINED AND SUGGESTED, INSTEAD, THAT AVIATION WEEK RECHECK ITS SOURCES. AVIATION WEEK HAS RECHECKED ITS SOURCES, AND THE ITEM IS CORRECT AS ORIGINALLY PUBLISHED. END TEXT.

2. THE FOREGOING IS THE ONLY MENTION OF THIS SUBJECT WHICH APPEARED IN THIS WEEK'S EDITION OF THE MAGAZINE. ROBINSON

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Disposition Authority: ShawDG
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Subject: AVIATION WEEK
TAGS: OVIP, SOPN, (KISSINGER, HENRY A), (CARLSON, JOHN G)
To: SECRETARY AIRCRAFT
Type: TE
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